


**REMARKS**

Entry of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested. This amendment is intended to place the claims in a more conventional format and eliminate the multiple dependency of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By:   
James A. LaBarre  
Registration No. 28,632

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620

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**Marked-up Claims 1-8**

1. (Amended) A smart card customizing system [characterised in that it comprises] comprising:

- at least one customizing machine [(MP) each] equipped with at least one customizing station [(PP) sending] that sends customizing data requests;
- at least one customizing data server [(SD) delivering] that delivers customizing data and;
- at least one management interface connected [on the one hand to at least one of the] to said customizing [machines (MP) and on the other hand to at least one of the] machine and to said data [servers] server by a bi-directional link, [the] said management interface receiving [the] said requests[,] and transmitting them to at least one of [the] said servers as soon as they are received and as soon as said server is available, and receiving the corresponding response and transmitting it to the requesting customizing station[, characterised in that the said management interface is able to manage the transmission of the applications/requests or customizing data requirements to at least one of the said servers as soon as they are received and as soon as the said server is available].

2. (Amended) A system for customizing smart cards according to Claim 1, [characterised in that the] wherein said management interface coordinates the execution of at least the following types of tasks at the same time [or periodically and] for each customizing station [at least the following types of task]:

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- monitoring the occurrence of a request,
- monitoring the availability of each server,
- transmitting the request to a server as soon as it is available,
- receiving the data responding to the request, and
- transmitting the response data to the requesting customizing station as soon as

they are received.

3. (Amended) A system for customizing smart cards according to [one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the] claim 1, wherein said management interface has:

- a computer [(PC)] equipped with a [multiway] multi-port card [(CM)],
- each data server and each customizing station being respectively connected to the computer by a serial link on the [multiway] multi-port card [(CM)], and
- a multitask real-time operating system for operating [the] said tasks at the same time and in real time.

4. (Amended) A system according to Claim 1, [2 or 3, characterised in that] wherein each customizing station comprises:

- a microprocessor [(TBP)],
- a reader/encoder [(LE)],

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- a first computer link of the serial type [(LS)] between the microprocessor [(TBP)] and [the] a computer [(PC)] of the server [(SD)], and
- a second computer link of the serial type [(LLE)] between the microprocessor [(TBP)] and the reader-encoder [(LE)].

5. (Amended) A system according to Claim 4, [characterised in that] wherein the first and second computer links of the serial type [(LS, LLE)] of each microprocessor [(TBP)] are produced by connecting [certain] predetermined output terminals [(V<sub>pp</sub>, V<sub>cc</sub>, CLK, I/O GND)] of an output connector [(COS)] of the microprocessor [(TBP)] to an adaptation device [(DA)].

6. (Amended) A system according to Claim 5, [characterised in that] wherein the adaptation device [(DA)] comprises:

- a switching circuit [(RS)] comprising two switches [(RS1, RS2)] whose input terminal is connected [in one case (RS1) to the] to a clock output terminal [(CLK)] and in the other case (RS2) to the] and to an output terminal for [the] data signals [(I/O)], the switching being controlled by a programming signal on [the] another predetermined output terminal [(V<sub>pp</sub>)],
- two adaptor circuits [(SLA1, SLA2)], the two input terminals of which are each connected to an output terminal of a switch [(RS1, RS2), the] the said adaptor circuits also

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being connected to [the] an output terminal [(V<sub>cc</sub>)] for the electrical power supply and to [the earth] a ground reference output terminal [(GND)] of the output connector [(COS)].

7. (Amended) A system for customizing smart cards according to [one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the] claim 1, wherein said server is an enciphering data server.

8. (Amended) A system for customizing smart cards according to [one of the preceding claims, characterised in that it comprises] claim 1, further including a control device [(DC)] for supplying additional customizing data, [the] said device being connected by means of a communication bus [(PC)] to each customizing station [(PP)] of a customizing machine.